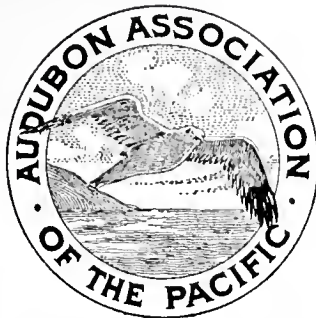


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MAY MEETING: The next regular meeting of the Association will be held on Thursday evening, 12th inst., at eight o'clock, in the Board Room of the State Board of Harbor Commissioners, Ferry Building, 2nd Floor, Room 19.

The speaker of the evening will be Dr. G. Dallas Hanna, curator, Department of Paleontology, California Academy of Sciences. Dr. Hanna, who has recently returned from an expedition to the Revillagigedo Islands, has chosen for his subject, "Birds of the Revillagigedo Islands, Mexico." The lecture will be illustrated by motion pictures. A most entertaining and instructive evening is assured those who attend.

* * *

MAY FIELD TRIP will be taken Sunday, 15th inst., to Cashion, Contra Costa County. San Francisco members will take 8:00 a. m. Key Route ferry, and Sacramento Short Line train at mole. East Bay members may take train at College and Shafter Aves., at 8:35 a. m. Purchase round trip tickets to Cashion; from San Francisco, \$1.00; from Oakland, 75c. Bring lunch and water. Distance, five to seven miles. Return train leaves Cashion at 4:25 p. m. Leader, Miss Ethel Crum.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE APRIL MEETING: The one hundred-twenty-first regular meeting of the Association was held on April 14th, in the Board Room of the State Board of Harbor Commissioners, with Dr. Frederick W. D'Evelyn, President, in the chair; Mrs. Carl Smith, Secretary.

Mr. David O'Brien of the White Wing Aviaries gave his experiences in aviculture, including the breeding of Roller Canaries. Mr. O'Brien emphasized the fact that the common cuckoo is such an unnatural mother and described the young cuckoo as follows:

"The young cuckoo is about the fiercest little monster known. Soon after it is hatched it begins to display its nasty disposition. It has no feathers; it is blind and naked; yet it is far from helpless. Immediately upon its entrance into life it begins to show symptoms of the superman that would delight the heart of Mr. Nietzsche or Mr. Bernhardt and all other apostles of Manifest Destiny. It wriggles down to the bottom of the nest and then gradually getting under its fellow nestling, it lifts it onto its flat back. Then using the ape-like arms as props and the strong legs as levers, it partly raises and partly pushes its victim upwards, clambering backward up the side of the nest. When it reaches the top, it hitches its victim over, and the last scene of all almost takes one's breath away, for the blind little creature, before returning to the bottom of the nest, feels around to assure itself that the difficult business has been in all respects successfully accomplished. Having gotten rid of its foster brother, it seems completely exhausted, but when it rests up a little bit, it will continue to eject any other bird or egg or anything that may be put in the nest. I have put in small pebbles to see it exercise its strong legs throwing or rooting them out. It is born with the

idea that the nest belongs to it. There is another curious thing about this bird. That is the proportion of sexes. The number of males have been estimated as ten to one of the female. This is one glaring exception to Gregor Mendel's Rules on proven average of male and female offspring equalizing itself. He says the first nest of four birds should be three males and one female, second hatch fifty fifty, the third nest three females and one male."



AUDUBON ASSOCIATION TENTH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

The tenth anniversary dinner was held Saturday evening, April 23rd, at the Woman's City Club, San Francisco. The hundred and ten members and friends who attended were unanimous in voting the same a great success and in hoping that instead of waiting another ten years for such an enjoyable evening there will be a get-together dinner every spring.

Much credit is due to Mrs. Kibbe, Miss Pettit and others who were responsible for the arrangements. Mesdames Parry and Meyer had charge of the table decorations, while Mrs. Carl Smith provided many new birds for the members' Life-lists by making bird table favors. These were daintily made and added a note of surprise to the scheme of things. While talking of surprises, it is fitting to add that all were pleasantly surprised by the timely return of the ever-faithful Mrs. Ynes Mexia.

Dr. D'Evelyn acted as toastmaster and by his clever and appropriate introductions of the speakers added much to the entertainment of the evening. The three-minute talks given between courses formed the mosaics. The first to speak was Mr. J. S. Hunter, Honorary President, using conservation as his theme. Dr. B. W. Evermann spoke of Audubon's early life, reminding that he had been a storekeeper. Dr. Grinnell read a paper, "Linnetts and Dandelions," which showed that all things have their compensation, even dandelions, as their seeds form a favorite food for the little red-headed songsters who give joy to many. Dr. Bryant spoke of the good work done by the Association in regard to prevention of oil pollution of the waters. Other speakers were Messrs. Swarth, Loomis, Carrigar and Mailliard. Mr. Joseph Mailliard aptly expressed his sentiments in the poem that follows.

Mrs. Kibbe delivered a short address, in which she reviewed some of the work of the Association, commending Mr. C. Lastreto for his untiring efforts on behalf of the Association. Mr. Lastreto replied by stating that he hoped to be the first life member, as soon as such a membership is inaugurated, but if the first has already been spoken for, as is rumored, he will be glad to become the second life member.

At the conclusion of the dinner the tables were pushed aside and all enjoyed the main feature of the evening, Mr. Joseph Dixon's lecture on the "SURF BIRD." While showing his pictures Mr. Dixon so humanly and graphically described the finding of the eggs of the surf bird by Mr. George Wright and himself that his audience in a measure could share the thrill enjoyed by the explorers.



THE AUDUBON ASSOCIATION OF THE PACIFIC

A partnership of friends of birds! Under its banner do we aim
To save the birds from hands of those who pleasure find in slaughtering,
Who care no whit what harm they do to satisfy their lust to kill
Nor what suffering they bring upon the victims of their barb'rous wont;

To save the birds from those who, meaning well, are ignorant of
The injury done in thoughtless taking of an avian life—
Heedless of the selfishness they show toward those who happy are
In listening to the music made by feathered friends around the home;

To 'rouse in youth a fondness for companions such as birds may be;
 To cultivate a love in all for the choristers that greet us
 In the morn with cheery welcome to the bright'ning day, and at eve
 Salute the setting sun with song, ere retiring to their well-earned rest;

In such ways to help the farmer, who has need of birds to warfare wage
 Upon the hosts of insect foes that ever threaten to destroy
 The crops which *must* be raised to feed mankind—such foes as would, not
 Kept in check by loyal friends, soon sound the knell of man on earth.

In these ambitions we must aid, but tolerance must e'er be shown
 Toward those who strive to help the world in ways that may, perhaps,
 Seem to us in conflict with the aims and objects that we have in view
 And yet, in fact, may vastly add to sum of human knowledge.

To date the work that has been done is well worth looking back upon.
 The ten years past have much to show in fair array of aims achieved,
 Of problems new well met as they arose and answer found to most.
 Let's make the next decade show far greater yet accomplishment!

April 23, 1927.

* * *

JOSEPH MAILLIARD.

A FEW BIRD NOTES FROM MEXICO

Mrs. Ynes Mexia very interestingly tells of a pair of canyon wrens that decided to nest in the rafters of one of the great rooms of an old house. They have a great habit of courtesying when they sit on a beam in the sunshine. They bob their little salutation not like a water-ouzel straight up and down but from side to side with a dip in the middle that is very graceful. To see the two mites doing this in unison is very amusing, and of course every cadence of song has to be accompanied by this gesture. The white throats of the wrens contrast sharply with the red tiled roof.

Some of our summer visitants, such as summer and pileolated warblers, were observed as winter visitants by Mrs. Mexia. Old friends in strange lands are doubly welcome.

* * *

SHORE BIRDS

There is no more appropriate time than this season to comment on shore birds. The numbers have increased and seemed to reach their height on April 25th. On April 15th Marbled Godwits joined the other birds that had been frequenting the mud flats and beaches since late March. On April 24th it was my good fortune to observe ten knots in fine plumage; the following day at the same place were thirteen of these seldom seen birds and again two days later I found one individual. These dates correspond with dates of other years when these birds were seen on the Alameda shore. A few semi-palmated plovers were in evidence late in April.

While observing shore birds at the Dumbarton Bridge a number of Caspian terns were flying about, intermingling with Forster terns.

JUNEA W. (MRS. G. EARLE) KELLY.

* * *

APRIL FIELD TRIP

On April 24th the Audubon Society, under Mrs. Kibbe's leadership, went to Lake Merced. The weather was ideal for walking, though the slight fog that tempered the recent heat sometimes obscured slightly the view of birds

THE GULL

far out on the lake. The first part of the walk, through the plantation of tall trees, was rather unproductive; but when the lake with its willow growth was reached, bird lists began to grow.

The party circled the lake and stopped for lunch on the bluff on the farther shore. Entertainment during the meal was provided by a mother mallard who was taking her flotilla of nine young out for exercise; by the tule wrens' agitated conversation over their housekeeping affairs; and by the always lovely music of song sparrows.

After lunch the party continued on to the highway, where one group turned back along the road, while the main party went on by way of the Broderick monument and the flower-bordered cabbage fields to Daly City, and so home.

It had been hoped that a number of nests might be located, but Mr. H. N. Carrigar was unable to accompany the party to point out his finds. However, four nests were located: two bush-tits', one with eggs, one with young; one tule-wren's; and one nest with eggs, unidentified, in the grass near the lake, which Mrs. Mexia photographed.

We were very glad to welcome Mrs. Mexia back after her long stay in Mexico, where she has been collecting botanical specimens.

Birds encountered were: Western, eared and pied-billed grebes, Pacific loon; glaucous-winged, western and California gulls, Farallone cormorant; red-breasted merganser, mallard and ruddy ducks; American bittern, black-crowned night heron, coot; California quail, western mourning dove; sparrow hawk, kingfisher, red-shafted flicker; Allen hummer, western flycatcher; meadowlark, Brewer blackbird, purple finch, California linnet, willow and green-backed goldfinches, Nuttall sparrow, junco, song sparrow, San Francisco and California towhees; cliff, barn and bank swallows; yellow, myrtle and Audubon warblers, salt marsh yellow throat, pileolated warbler, pippit, Vigor's and tule wrens, chickadee, bush-tit, wren-tit; russet-backed and hermit thrushes, western robin. Forty-nine species.

Western sandpipers, Hudsonian Curlew and long billed dowitchers were seen on Berkeley shore.

There were twenty-eight people on the walk, fifteen members and thirteen guests

Members present: Mesdames Futhey, Juda, Hall, Kibbe, Mexia, Myer; Misses Boegle, Carnahan, Meehan, Paroni, Pettit, Werner; Messrs. Bryant, Card, Myer. Guests: Mrs. Stephens; Misses Cummings, Hart, Knief, Mildred and Thelma Lindersmith; Messrs. William Gorrill, Sterling Gorrill, Hebgen, Felix Juda, Harold Juda, Lockerbie, Stephens.

MR. CHAS. BRYANT,

MRS. M. HALL,

Historians.

AUDUBON ASSOCIATION OF THE PACIFIC

FOR THE STUDY AND THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS

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Meets second Thursday of each month at 8:00 p.m., in the Board Room of the State Board of Harbor Commissioners, Ferry Building, Second Floor, Room 19.

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